

I urge all Governors, appropriate Federal officials, transportation organizations, and the people of the United States to join with the U.S. Department of Transportation in observing these days in recognition of the vital role that transportation plays in our daily lives and in the future of an energy-secure America.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-eighth day of April, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and fourth.

JIMMY CARTER

Proclamation 4754 of May 1, 1980

**Prayer for Peace
Memorial Day, May 26, 1980**

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

It has been a national tradition since the end of the Civil War to remember on Memorial Day the men and women of America who fought and died on the battlefield. We owe them a debt that can never be annulled. Their sacrifice endowed us with liberty and made our country a leader among nations.

But on this day of mourning and of homage to the heroes of the past, let us also remember the duty we owe to coming generations to be firm in the cause of liberty.

This past year we have had abundant proof that American courage still lives—eight Americans gave up their lives and others were seriously injured in the attempt to free their fellow Americans held hostage in Iran. We can take pride in our concern for national honor and in the firmness and restraint with which Americans face crisis. Mindful of our historic duty, we have become even more determined to defend our interests, protect our liberties, and promote our ideals. At the same time, we remain firmly committed to working with other nations to solve world problems together and to strengthen the foundations of world peace.

In recognition of those Americans to whom we pay tribute today, the Congress, by joint resolution of May 11, 1950 (64 Stat. 158), has requested the President to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe each Memorial Day as a day of prayer for permanent peace and designating a period on that day when the people of the United States might unite in prayer.

36 USC 169g.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIMMY CARTER, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Memorial Day, Monday, May 26, 1980, as a day of prayer for permanent peace, and I designate the hour beginning in each locality at 11 o'clock in the morning of that day as a time to unite in prayer.

I urge the press, radio, television, and all other information media to cooperate in this observance.

I also request the Governors of the United States and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the appropriate officials of all local units of government to direct that the flag be flown at half-staff during this Memorial Day on all buildings, grounds, and naval vessels throughout the United States and in all areas under its jurisdiction and control, and I request the people of the United States to display the flag at half-staff from their homes for the customary forenoon period.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this first day of May, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and fourth.

JIMMY CARTER

Proclamation 4755 of May 5, 1980

Salute to Learning Day, 1980

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Throughout our history, Americans have been committed to the ideas of education and learning. In the eighteenth century, the law often decreed that land be set aside in each township for public schools. In the nineteenth century, hundreds of towns that were scarcely more than clearings in the wilderness nevertheless had their Lyceums, named for the garden in Athens where Aristotle taught, and dedicated to public enlightenment. As our Nation grew, teachers in every town and city spread the love of learning and offered the opportunity to make the American dream come true. In the twentieth century, education has become available to Americans of all ages, both inside the classroom and through a widening range of facilities and technological aids that allow them to pursue whatever skills and knowledge they might wish from childhood through old age.

America's gifts to the world include not only our Constitution, the incandescent light bulb and the automobile, but the free public school and the land-grant college system.

From the beginning we Americans have found practical ways to organize ourselves to make our dreams reality. And so we have built schools, public and private, from log cabin classrooms in the backwoods to gleaming city campuses of steel and marble. Today, education is our Nation's largest enterprise. State and local governments have exercised primary responsibility for public education, gradually expanding its range. The Federal government has sought to ensure access to equal educational opportunity for all our people. Higher education—once the privilege of a tiny elite—is now within the reach of virtually every American. We have been able to build the most comprehensive and open system of public education in the world because of the continuing commitment of Americans to the essential freedom to pursue knowledge and truth, and to the principle that if the people are to rule, they must be prepared.

Now, to meet the needs of the generations to come, we have established a Department of Education to express our national commitment to education, to promote equal educational opportunity, to assist local authorities in their efforts to improve our schools, and to administer Federal education programs more efficiently.